

**METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM STORAGE DEVICE FOR
PROVIDING PROTRUSION FEEDBACK FOR A READ/WRITE ELEMENT**

ABSTRACT

5 A method, apparatus and program storage device for providing protrusion
feedback for a read/write element is disclosed. A slider with a heating element is
provided to control the level of read/write element protrusion. A level of heating applied
to the slider to change the head protrusion is measured and recorded until acceptable
operation of the read/write element is obtained. These measurements are then used to
10 ensure that the read/write element continues to operate properly at different drive
temperatures.